

affected if untreated effluents are discharged in the water bodies. The Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board has reported that M/s Kanoria Sugar and General Manufacturing Co. Ltd. at Kaptanganj in Uttar Pradesh has provided effluent treatment plant to treat its effluent. The State Pollution Control Board had issued directions to this unit for proper operation and maintenance of the effluent treatment plant.

(a) All other sugar units in Uttar Pradesh have been directed by the Board for proper operation and maintenance of their effluent treatment plants so as to conform to the prescribed standards.

Animal Diseases

1592. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote treatment of the animal diseases in the private sector particularly in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken the advise of certain experts before formulating these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Pollution in National Capital Region

1593. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pollution turning into environment crisis" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated January 29, 1997;

(b) if so, whether any recent study have been conducted to ascertain the level of pollution in the towns of the NCR;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(d) the scale and type of fiscal incentives being given to the small and medium scale industries to control the environmental pollution; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to save NCR towns from pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Pollution Control Board conducted an ambient air quality monitoring survey in the National Capital Region—Delhi during the year 1994-95. A total of 33 cities/towns were selected in the National Capital Region covering 14 towns of Uttar Pradesh, 16 towns of Haryana and 3 towns of Rajasthan. The monitoring continued for thirty days in three different seasons viz., winter, summer and post monsoon covering the parameters like suspended particulates, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur dioxide. The average ambient levels of pollutants were found below their prescribed limits except suspended particulates.

(d) Fiscal incentives available to the small and medium scale industries include exemption/rebate in custom duty for import of pollution control equipments, rebate in excise duty, Central and State subsidy to the extent of 50 per cent of the total cost of the Combined Effluent Treatment Plants for clusters of small scale units, etc.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to control pollution in the National Capital Region include the following :

- (i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed.
- (ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- (iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.
- (iv) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (v) Notification of ambient air quality standards has been issued.
- (vi) Central Pollution Control Board regularly monitors the water quality of Yamuna and of the ground water in Delhi. State Pollution Control Boards of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana have been requested to take up monitoring work in the various rivers.
- (vii) Government of India has notified noise standards for industrial, commercial and residential areas and silence zones.
- (viii) Codes of practice has been evolved for operation of various equipments to ensure that noise levels are maintained within the prescribed limits.
- (ix) Public awareness campaigns are being carried out.

Manufacture of Pyrazinamide

1594. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of anomaly in the duty structure of DAMN vis-a-vis Cynopyrazine, both

intermediates used for the manufacture of Pyrazinamide—an anti TB drug;

- (b) if so, the rationale behind this decision; and
- (c) the details of action taken on various representations received in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) There is no anomaly as such in the Duty structure of DAMN *vis-a-vis* 2-Cynopyrazine. The differential duty structure is in accordance with the principle of graded Duty structure and the policy of the Government followed since considerable time.

(c) The report and the representations received in this regard have been examined and decision has been taken on merits to maintain the graded duty structure.

[Translation]

Sugar Production and Sugar Prices

1595. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether increase in the production of the sugarcane as well as sugar had been estimated for the last ten years;
- (b) if so, the quantum of sugar production during 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately;
- (c) the estimated sugar production during 1996-97;
- (d) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for unprecedented increase in the consumer prices of sugar along with the increase in its production; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard and the maximum and minimum consumer prices of sugar in the open market during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of sugar during the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 146.43 and 164.29 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) The production of sugar during the current 1996-97 is likely to be about 140 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e) The open market prices of sugar during the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 had fluctuated within a narrow range. The range of wholesale sugar prices of S-30 grade of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during

the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 were as under :

| Season | Range of Wholesale Prices (Rs./Quintals) |
|---------|--|
| 1994-95 | 1010-1460 |
| 1995-96 | 1138-1510 |

National Sugarcane Policy

1596. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate a National Sugarcane Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) In Civil Misc. Writ Petition No. 36889 of 1996, the Allahabad High Court has directed that the Central Government will set up a High Powered Committee to make recommendations to thoroughly revise the laws prevailing in India relating to sugar and sugarcane.

The matter regarding constitution of such High Powered Committee on Sugar and Sugarcane is under consideration.

Economic and Overhead costs of Wheat and Rice

1597. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the economic and overhead costs of wheat and rice fixed by the Food Corporation of India have been constantly increasing for the last few years;
- (b) if so, the economic cost and overhead cost of wheat and rice during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately;
- (c) whether the Government have estimated the economic cost and overhead cost in the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reasons for increasing these costs; and
- (f) the measures taken by the Food Corporation of India to reduce these costs ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.